

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 6274

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, ETRD, EFIN, VN, UR, CH, COMECON

SUBJ: ECONADS: NORTH VIETNAMESE RELATIONS TO CEMA

REF: MOSCOW 15907

1. IN VIEW OF ITS CONTINUING INTEREST IN CEMA DEVELOPMENTS, AND PARTICULARLY IN THE LIGHT OF IST PENDING REPORT ON ECONOMIC/ POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS OF CEMA (ED/EC/75/71, POUCHED TO BOTH DEPARTMENT AND MOSCOW), WE WOULD LIKE TO PROVIDE THE NATO ECONOMIC COMMITTEE WITH THE SUBSTANCE OF MOSCOW' EXCELLENT REPORT, REFTEL. PERHAPS MOSCOW OR INR COULD PROVIDE A TEXT SUITABLE FOR CIRCULATION HERE OR VIEW THE NATO-WIDE NET.

2. AT THE NOVEMBER 5 ECONADS MEETING THE CANADIAN REP (HERMAN) CIRCULATED THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNT OF THE ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF THE LE DUAN VISIT WHICH, HOWEVER, DOES NOT MENTION ANY CEMA RELATION SHIP.: BEGIN TEXT:

LE DUAN, FIRST SECRETARY OF THE VIETNAM WORKERS, PARTY, ACCOMPANIED BY THE DRV DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND OTHERS, HAVE JUST COMPLETED A VISIT TO MOSCOW DURING WHICH AN EIGHT PAGE DECLARATION WAS SIGNED CONTAINING SIGNIFICANT ECONOMIC ELEMENTS. CONFIDENTIAL

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CONCRETE ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF THE VISIT ARE CONTAINED IN TWO AGREEMENTS: ONE RENDERING ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE AND A PROTOCOL ON RESULTS OF COORDINATING NATIONAL ECONOMIC PLANS. THE LATTER WOULD APPEAR TO BE ESPECIALLY SIGNIFICANT. WHILE DETAINS

OF THE AGREEMENTS HAVE NOT BEEN MADE PUBLIC, THE SECOND SECTION OF THE DECLARATION GIVES A CLEAR INDICATION OF THE FAR REACHING ASSISTANCE AND COOPERATION INCLUDING "COORDINATION OF NATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLANS".

IN THE CONTEXT OF THE DRV'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLANS FOR 1976-80, THE USSR WILL "LEND ASSISTNACE IN THE STUDY OF TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF CONSTRUCTION IN VIETNAM OF A NUMBER OF LARGE-SCALE ECONOMIC PRLJECTS. PROCEEDING FRGM ITS INVARIABLE POLICY FOR STRENGTHENING FRIENDSHIP WITH THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE AND TAKING INTO ACCOUNT VIETNAM' IMMEDIATE NEEDS FOR FULL RESTORATION OF A WAR-DEVASTATED NATIONAL ECONOMY AND ITS FURTHER DEVELOPMENT, THE CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT ADOPTED A DECISION TO GRANT THE VIETNAMESE SIDE CREDITS ON EASY TERMS FOR EFFECTING SOCIALIST INDUSTRIALIZATION, UPLIFTING OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND RAISING THE WELFARE OF THE POPULATION WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE FIVE-YEAR PLAN FOR 1976-1980. ON ACCOUNT OF THIS CREDIT, THE SOVIET UNION WILL LEND VIETNAM TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN DEVELOPMENT OF POWER ENGINEERING, MINING, METALLURGICAL, CHEMICAL ENGINEERING AND OTHER INDUSTRIES, AND IN BOOSTING OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY, AND WILL SUPPLY IN 1976 AND THE COMING FIVE-YEAR PERIOD VARIOUS KINDS OF TRANSPORTATION, METAL, OIL PRODUCTS, COTTON, FOOD AND OTHER COMMODITIES".

THE SOVIETS SEEM TO HAVE PULLED OUT ALL STOPS FOR THIS VISIT AND MEDIA ATTENTION WAS CONSIDERABLE. A KREMLIN RECEPTION WAS STAGED WITH FULL POLITBURO ATTENDANCE, ALTHOUGH THERE WERE NO TOASTS. THE ATMOSPHERE SEEMED VERY WARM.
END TEXTBRUCE

CONFIDENTIAL

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